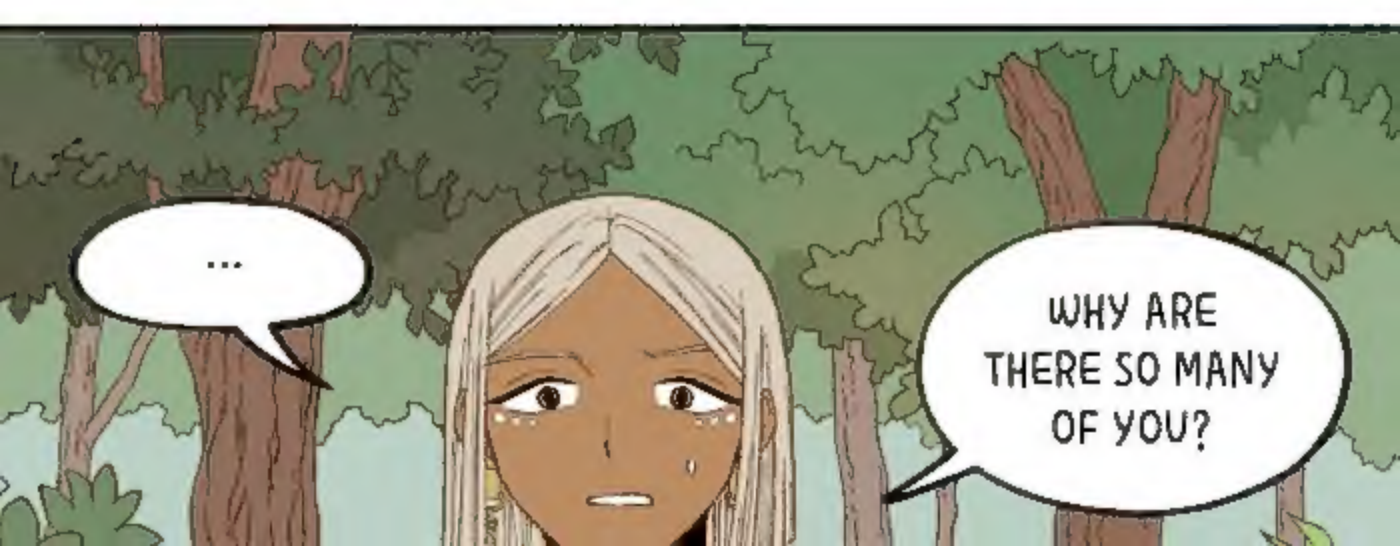
How to become a Dragon

- EPISODE 165 -



I BROUGHT BACK...
?
...THE THING I PROMISED YOU!

MY LORD...?
YOUR HAIR...
WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED...?

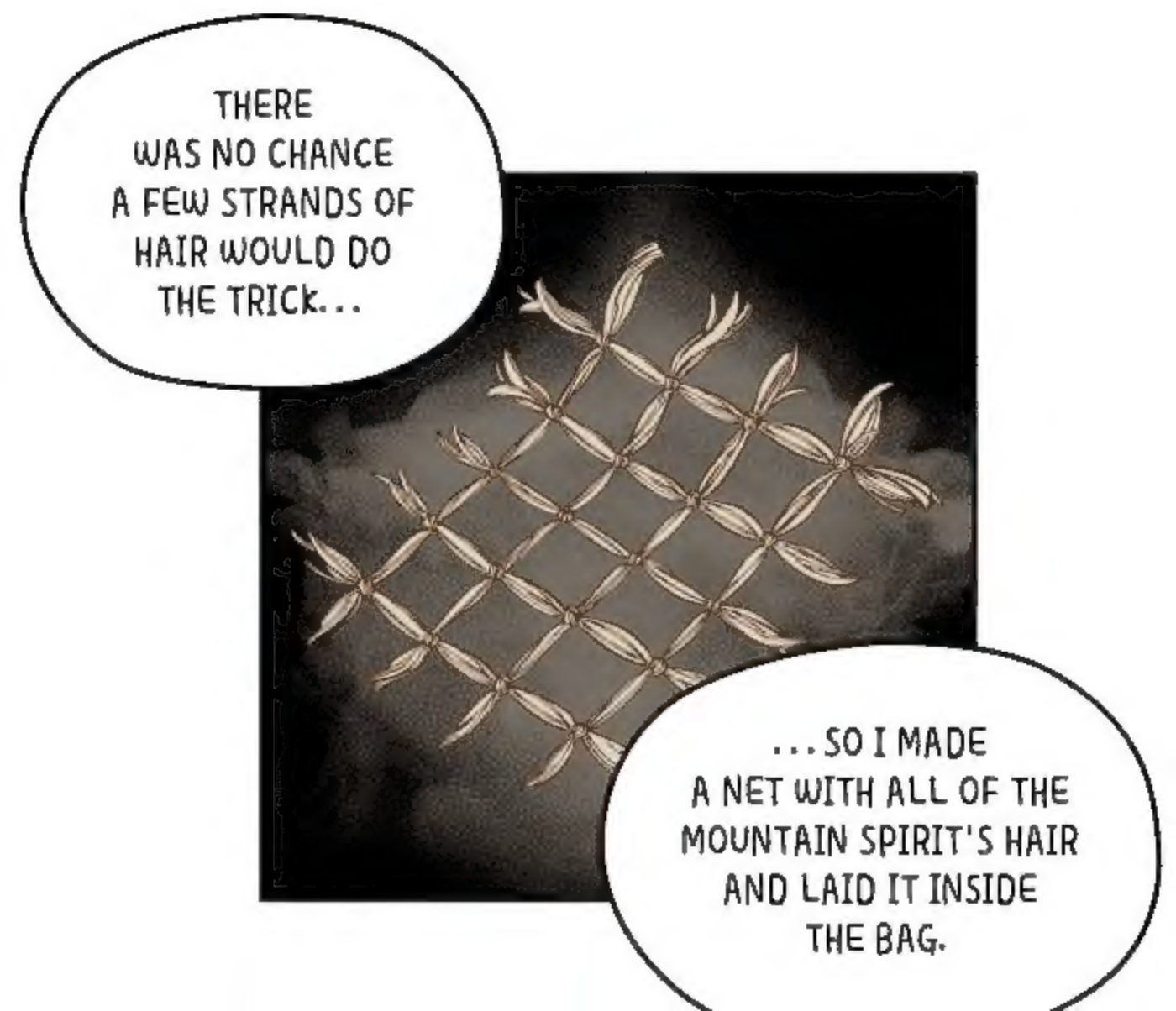
CRY
CRY
CRY
OH... YOUR SILKEN HAIR...
COME NOW,

IT'S NOTHING TO CRY OVER.

GOOD WORK. YOU MAY LEAVE NOW.

HELP ANY CREATURES WHO'VE LOST THEIR WAY AS YOU GO

THAT'S RIGHT.
I ASKED THE MOUNTAIN SPIRIT FOR A FAVOR.


THERE WAS NO CHANCE A FEW STRANDS OF HAIR WOULD DO THE TRICK...
...SO I MADE A NET WITH ALL OF THE MOUNTAIN SPIRIT'S HAIR AND LAID IT INSIDE THE BAG.

FOR SOMEONE WHO

...HE CERTAINLY KNOWS HOW TO

IS CAPABLE OF ABSOLUTELY NOTHING...
MAKE HIS CASE.

YOU HUMANS...
...ARE SO POWERLESS, BUT YOU CERTAINLY KNOW HOW TO GIVE A SPEECH...
VERY WELL.
WHY DON'T YOU ALSO PROVE YOURSELF,

THEN?

LET'S SEE IF YOU HAVE AS MUCH NERVE AS THAT LITTLE BOY.

I CAN'T.

HOW WOULD I DO SOMETHING THAT TWO IMOOGIS WEREN'T CAPABLE OF...?

W...
WHAT?
I MEAN, THINK ABOUT IT.
I'D SAY YES IF IT WAS SOMETHING I COULD ACTUALLY DO, BUT THIS IS LIKE GETTING BLOOD FROM A STONE. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...

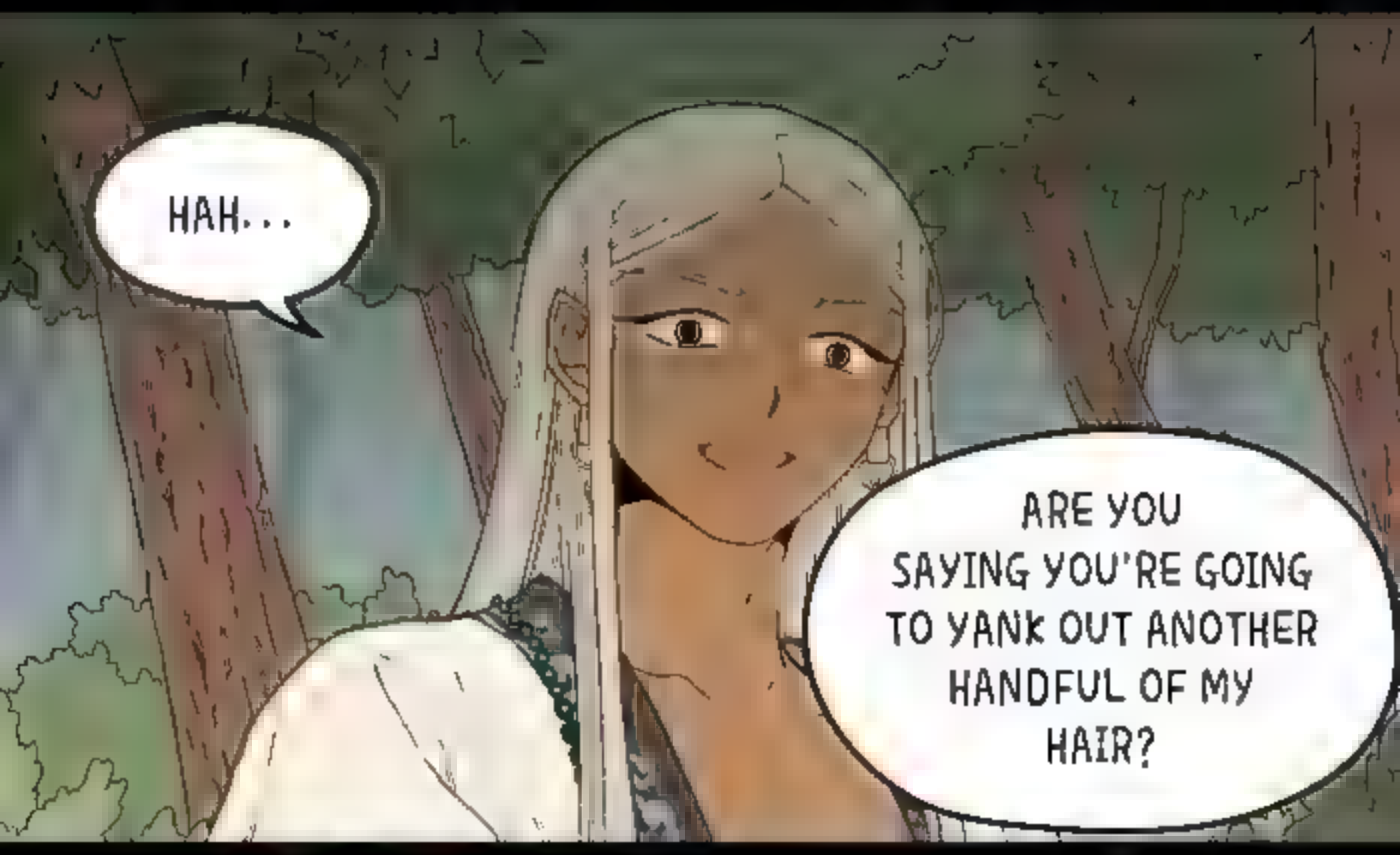
WHAT A WAY TO CRUSH YOUR OWN SPIRIT...
IN TIMES LIKE THIS, SHOULDN'T YOU BE RARING TO DO ANYTHING YOU CAN?
IT'S OBVIOUS I CAN'T DO ANYTHING AT ALL, SO HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO JUST GO THERE WITHOUT A PLAN?!
THEN ARE YOU ASKING ME TO GO WITH YOU AND CLEAN UP YOUR MESS?
HMM?

NO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT...
AND EVEN IF YOU GO WITH ME, THE BEST YOU CAN DO IS BURY THE ORB.
ARE YOU PLAYING GAMES WITH ME RIGHT NOW?
YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO TAKE MUNROK'S ORB BACK TO THE NAKDONG RIVER!
ANNOYED
YES, OBVIOUSLY.

BUT
I CAN'T DO IT WITH
MY ABILITIES
ALONE.
I NEED
A SUITCASE.

A...
WHAT?
BACK WHEN I WAS STUCK IN THAT CAVE,
LORD YISHIMI SAID THAT HE NEEDED DAMSEOL'S HAIR.
HE MUST HAVE NEEDED SOME KIND OF PROTECTIVE LAYER TO HOLD A DRAGON'S ORB.

BUT SINCE DAMSEOL'S HAIR IS USED AND GONE...
...WHAT IF I TOOK A MOUNTAIN SPIRIT'S HAIR WITH ME...
...INSTEAD OF A DRAGON'S HAIR...?


HAH...
ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE GOING TO YANK OUT ANOTHER HANDFUL OF MY HAIR?

UM...
NOPE...!
INSTEAD

OF GIVING A HANDFUL...
...HOW ABOUT, UM...
HEHE
...ALL OF IT.
YOUR WHOLE HEAD OF HAIR.

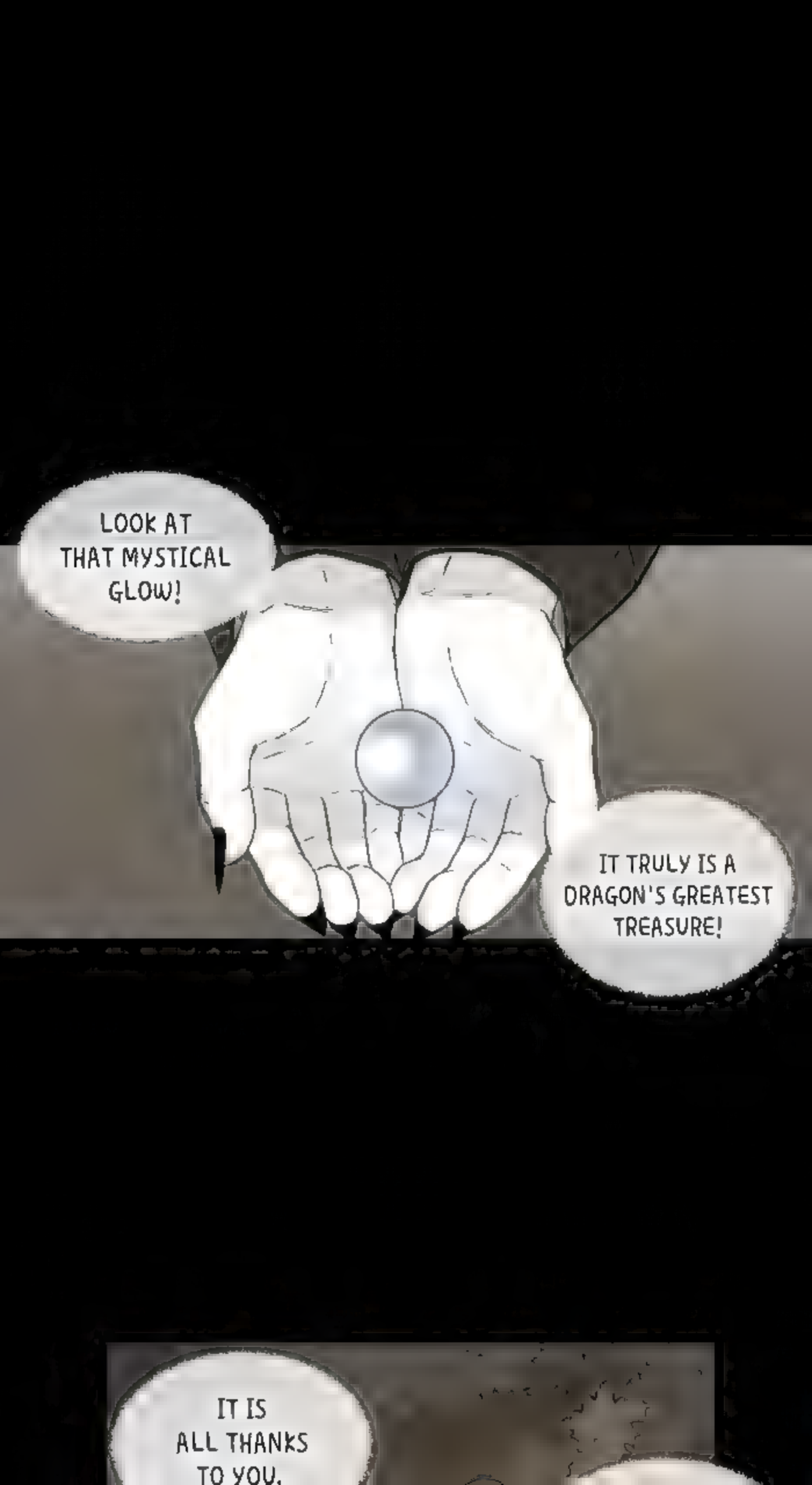
I MEAN...
SINCE YOU WERE FRIENDS WITH THE DRAGON, THAT MEANS THE TWO OF YOU ARE OF SIMILAR RANKS, RIGHT?
...
BUT STILL, SINCE YOU'RE NOT FROM THE SAME SPECIES? RACE?
I FIGURED IT MIGHT BE WORTH A SHOT TO GO QUANTITY OVER QUALITY...
FLIP
YOU LITTLE FIEND. I GIVE YOU A INCH AND YOU TRY TO TAKE A MILE.

AAAH!!
UM, IT MIGHT BE WEIRD TO SAY I'M OFFERING THIS IN EXCHANGE...
...BUT WE'LL CLEANSE THE ORB FOR YOU!
ARE YOU JUST MAKING THINGS UP NOW?

HOW DARE YOU CLAIM TO CLEANSE THE ORB WHEN YOU'RE JUST A POWERLESS NOBODY WHO IS GOING TO RUN AWAY WITH IT?
WAIT...! IT'S NOT ME DOING THE CLEANSING...
...IT'S BARI!
THE ONE TRAPPED IN THE CAVE RIGHT NOW...

HE'S NOT THAT GREAT AT CONTROLLING THUNDER, LIGHTNING, OR RAIN...
...BUT HIS CLEANSING POWERS ARE AMAZING!
IF YOU CAN'T BELIEVE ME, I CAN BRING YOU A WITNESS!

HE'S TREATED THE EASTERN DRAGON PRINCESS, TOO!
DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE...
...
...THE ORB GET CLEANSED?

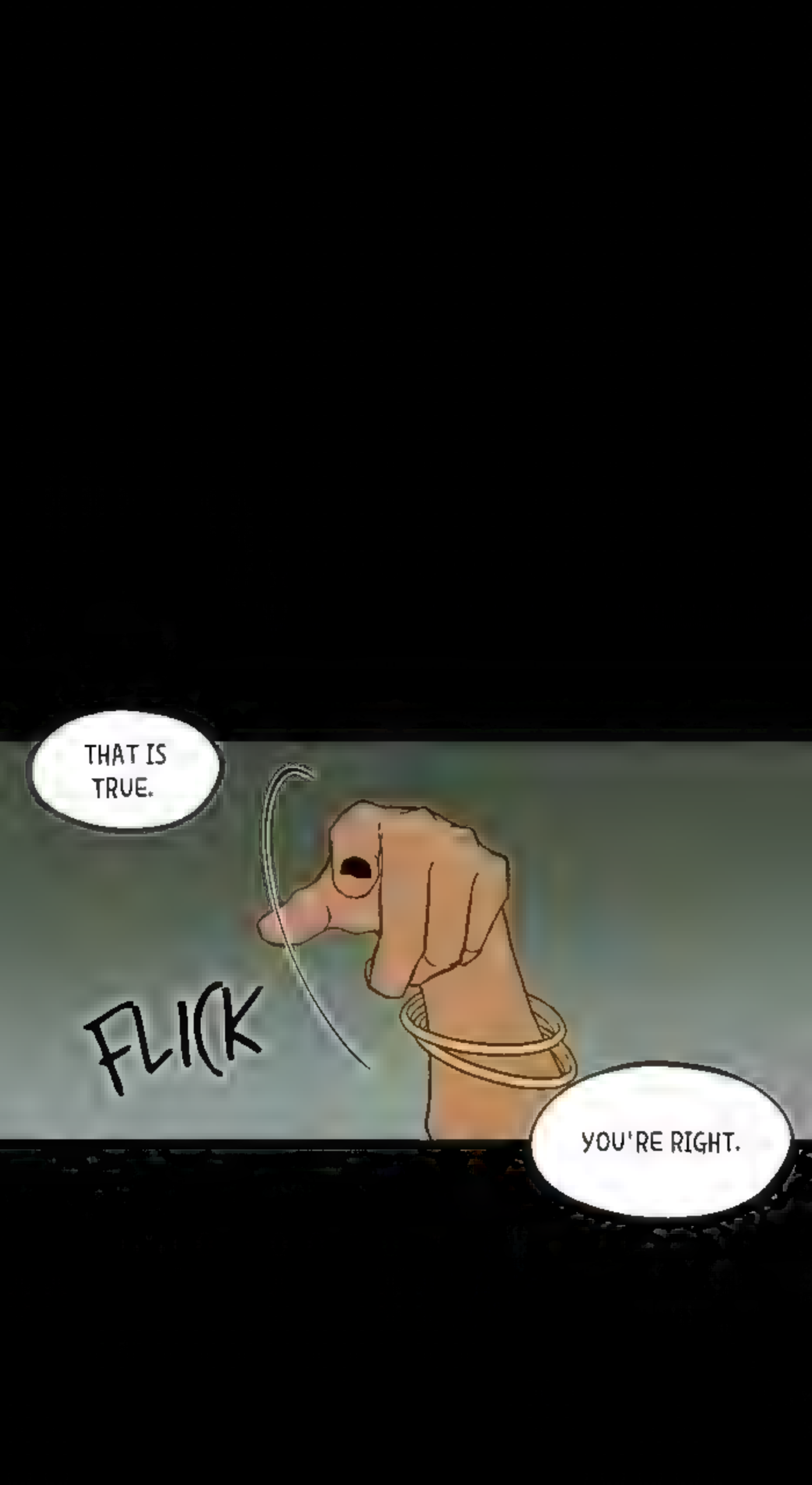

LOOK AT THAT MYSTICAL GLOW!
IT TRULY IS A DRAGON'S GREATEST TREASURE!
IT IS ALL THANKS TO YOU.

NOT AT ALL.
AT ANY RATE,
CONGRATULATIONS ON
YOUR ASCENSION.
WHAT GOOD LUCK
THAT YOU WERE PUT
IN CHARGE OF THE
NAKDONG RIVER.
I DONT HAVE TO
LOSE MY DRINKING
COMPANION NOW
SO,
HOW DOES
IT FEEL?
YOU'RE
THE MASTER OF
AN ENTIRE RIVER
NOW!

I'M STILL IN DISBELIEF...
...BUT THERE IS ONE THING I HAVE TAKEN TO HEART.

THE NAME OF THIS RIVER IS NOW MY TITLE.
I WILL TREASURE THIS RIVER THAT STRETCHES ALL THE WAY FROM HWANGJI, AND ALL THE CREATURES WITHIN IT, AS I WOULD MY OWN BODY.
I WILL BECOME A DRAGON...

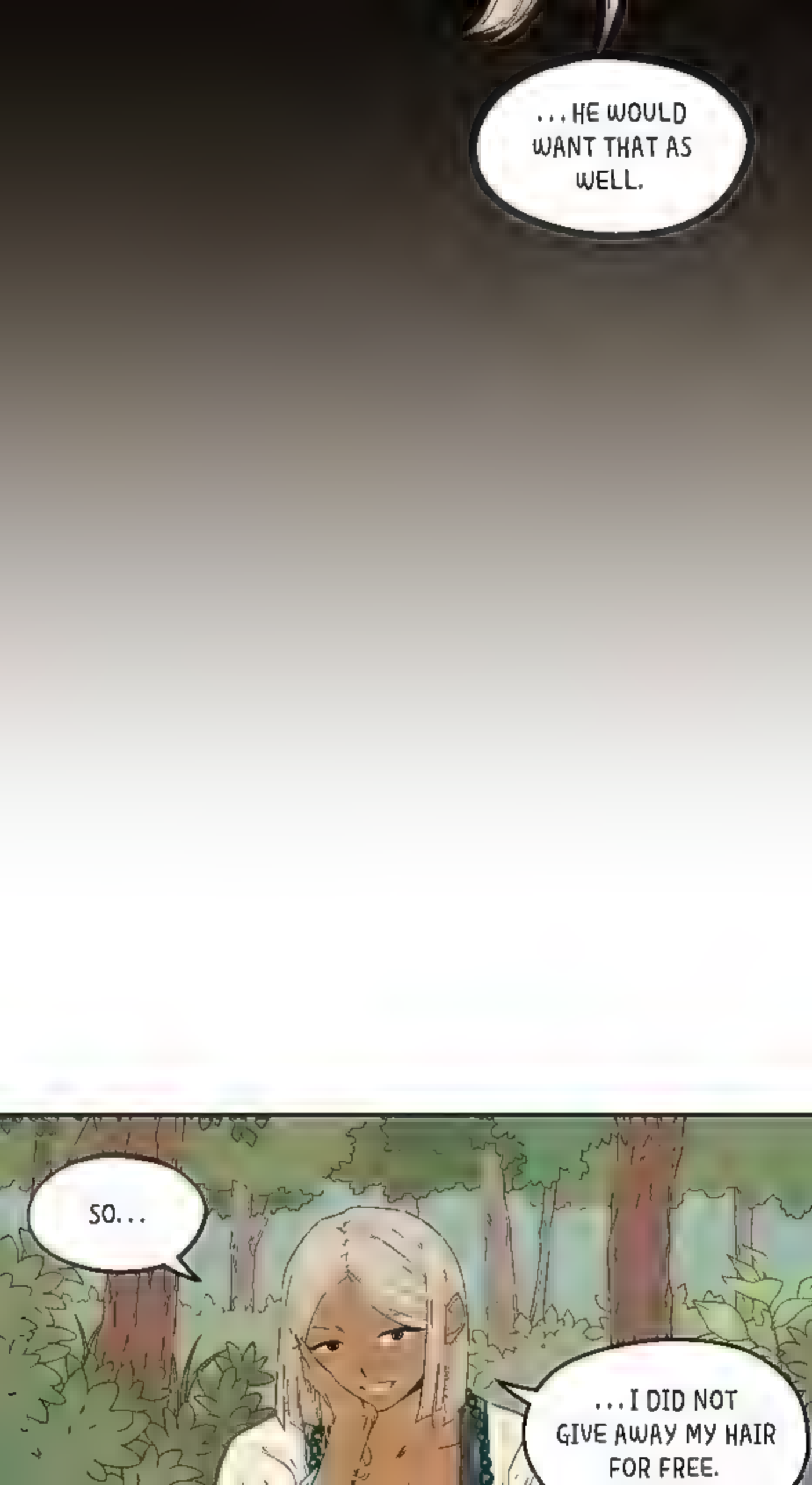
...WHO DOES NOT BRING SHAME TO THE NAKOONG NAME.
OF COURSE YOU WILL!
YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO ALL THAT AND MORE.


THAT IS TRUE.
FLICK
YOU'RE RIGHT.

I RESENTED THE RIVER THAT TOOK AWAY MY FRIEND...
FLOAT
...?
...AND ACTED STUBBORN FOR A LONG TIME.
GRAB

AS YOU PROMISED...
SLASH
...BRING WHAT BELONGS TO MUNROK...

...BACK TO HIS RIVER.
I BELIEVE...


...HE WOULD WANT THAT AS WELL.
SO...
...I DID NOT GIVE AWAY MY HAIR FOR FREE.

YOU'VE ALREADY RACKED UP A DEBT WITH ME BEFORE YOU'VE EVEN BECOME A DRAGON.

THAT'S RIGHT. NOW THAT I'VE ENTRUSTED MUNROK'S ORB TO YOU...

...YOU HAVE ESSENTIALLY BECOME THE FINALIST OF THIS EXAM, HAVE YOU NOT?

THAT ONE OVER THERE IS BARELY STANDING UP.

I DOUBT HE HAS THE STRENGTH TO RETURN TO THE RIVER...

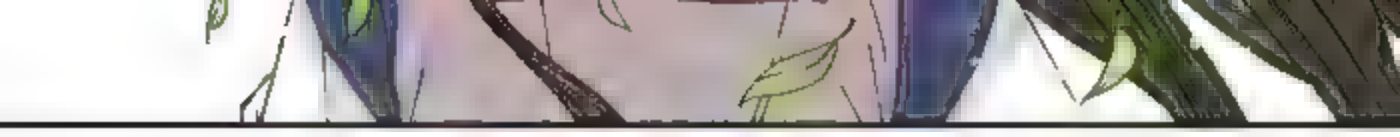
FWSHHH

GO.

TO THE RIVER THAT WILL BECOME YOURS.

BECOME THE NAKDONG RIVER DRAGON...
...AND CLEANSE YOUR PREDECESSOR'S RIVER AND ORB.

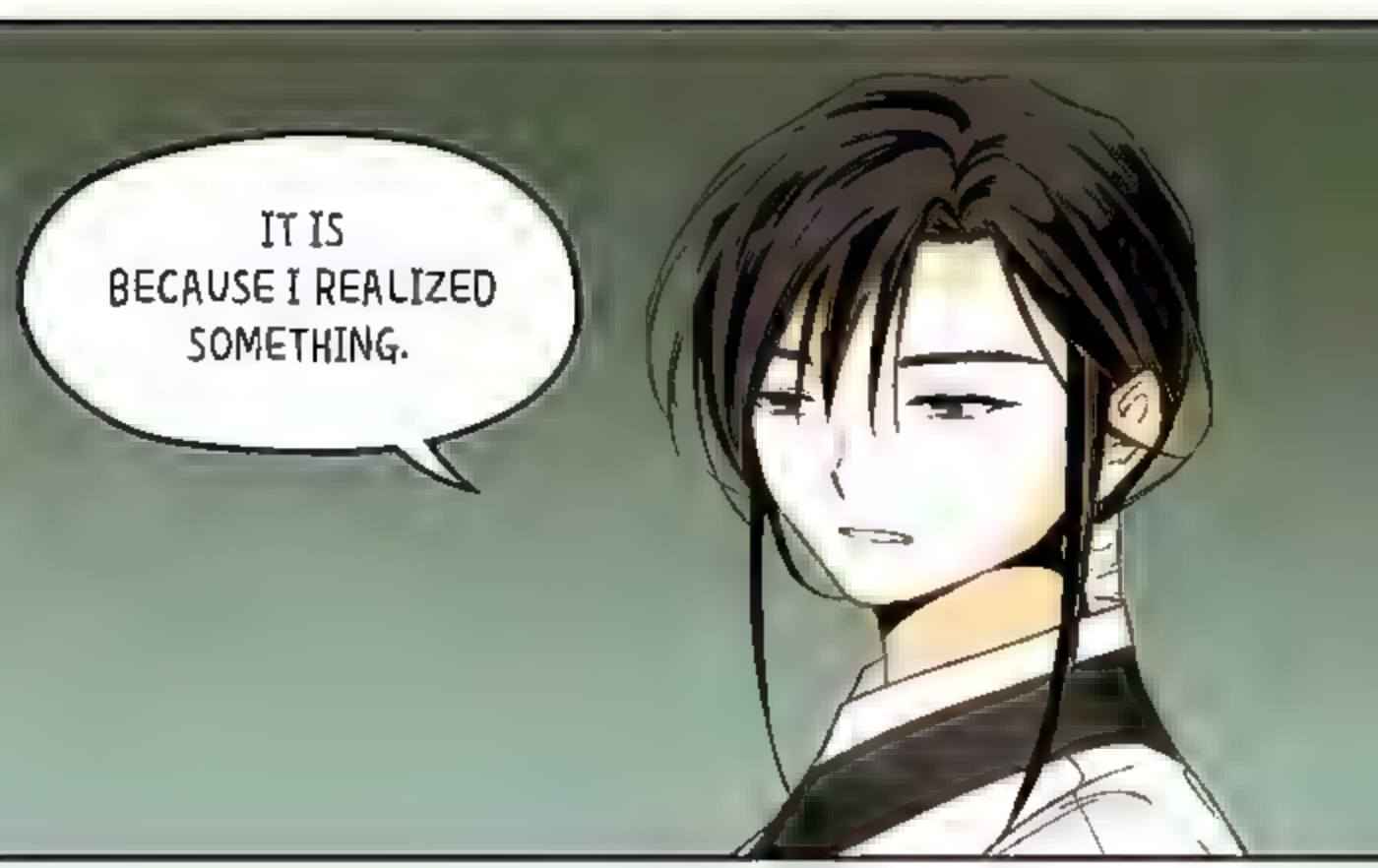
...
NOD
I WILL!



...

HOW
UNEXPECTED.

WEREN'T YOU FULL OF AMBITION?
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WOULD GIVE UP SO EASILY, EVEN IF YOUR BODY WAS IN TATTERS.


IT IS BECAUSE I REALIZED SOMETHING.

WHAT IS IT?
WHEN I WAS IN THAT CAVE,
I THOUGHT I HAD LET GO OF ALL OF MY FEELINGS FOR THE PAST AS I BUSIED MYSELF WITH THE FINAL EXAM...

I LET GO AGAIN...

...AND AGAIN...

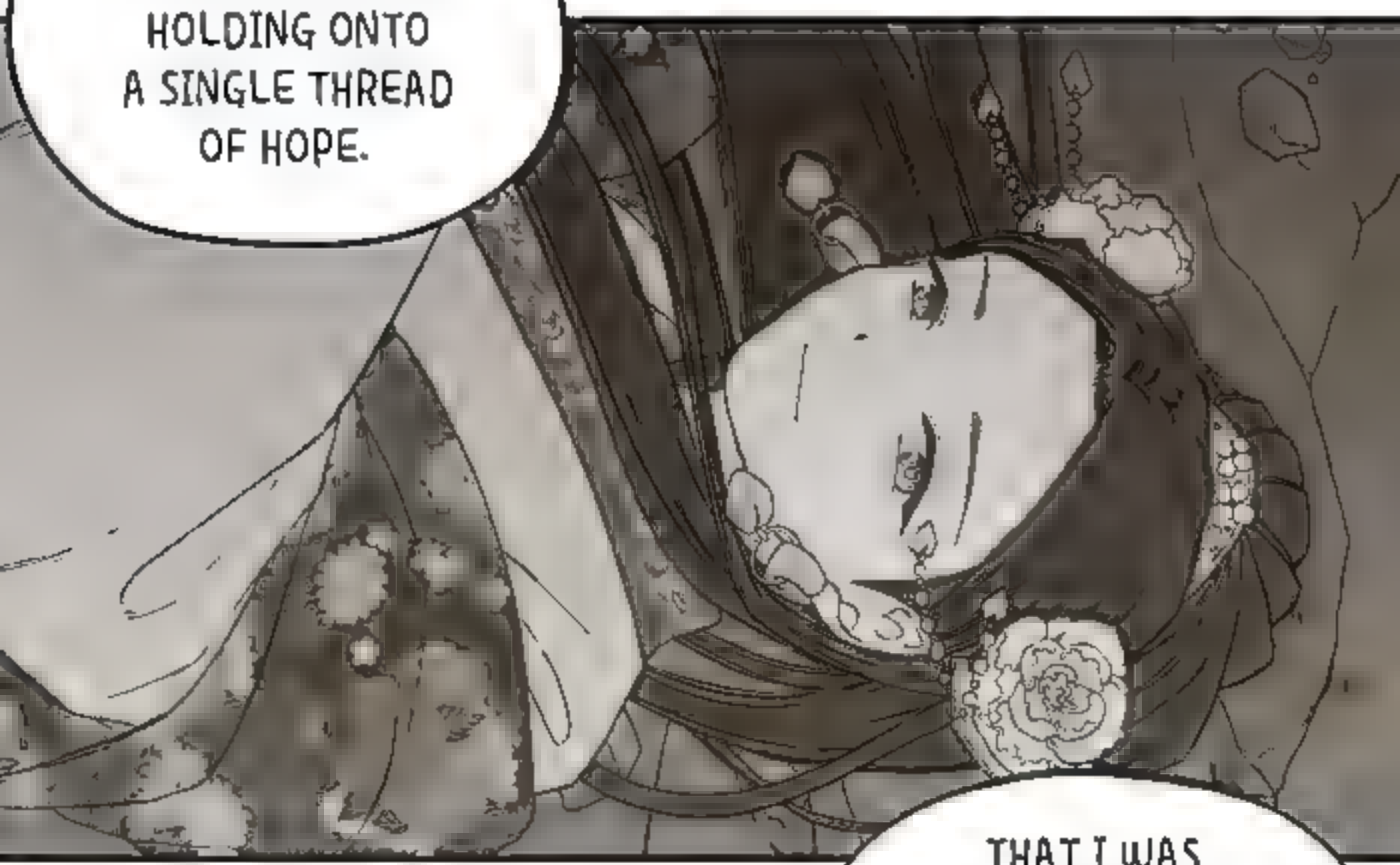
...AND AGAIN...

...YET, IN A SINGLE INSTANT,

AS CLUMSY AS THAT LITTLE PRANK WAS...

...I FELT MY HEART BREAK AGAIN.

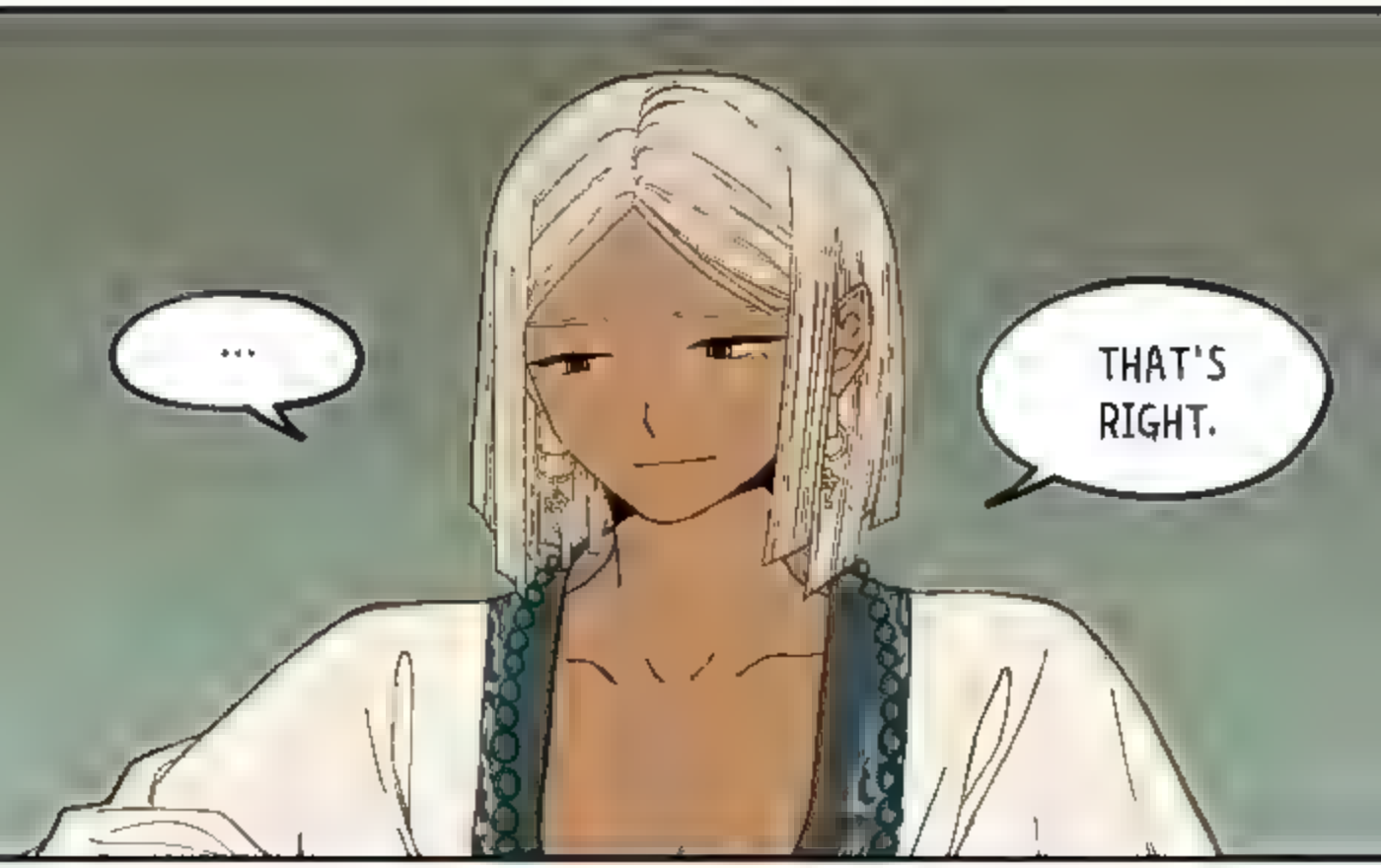
I REALIZED THAT I WAS STILL HOLDING ONTO A SINGLE THREAD OF HOPE.



THAT I WAS WAITING FOR US TO BE REUNITED.

THAT I HAD MADE A PROMISE...
...SO I COULD NOT GIVE UP, AND I HAD TO KEEP WAITING FOR HER.
...

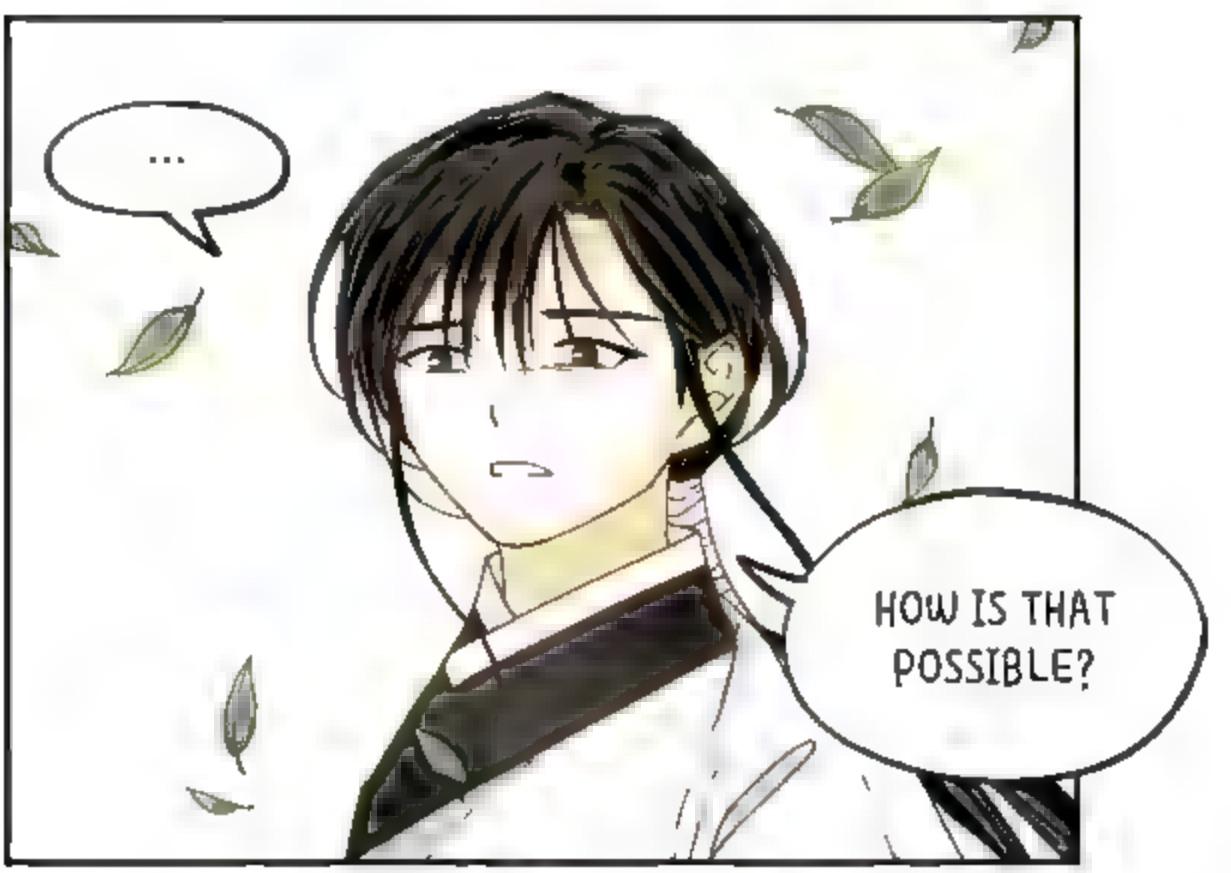
COMPLETELY LETTING GO OF MY PAST...
...JUST WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME.

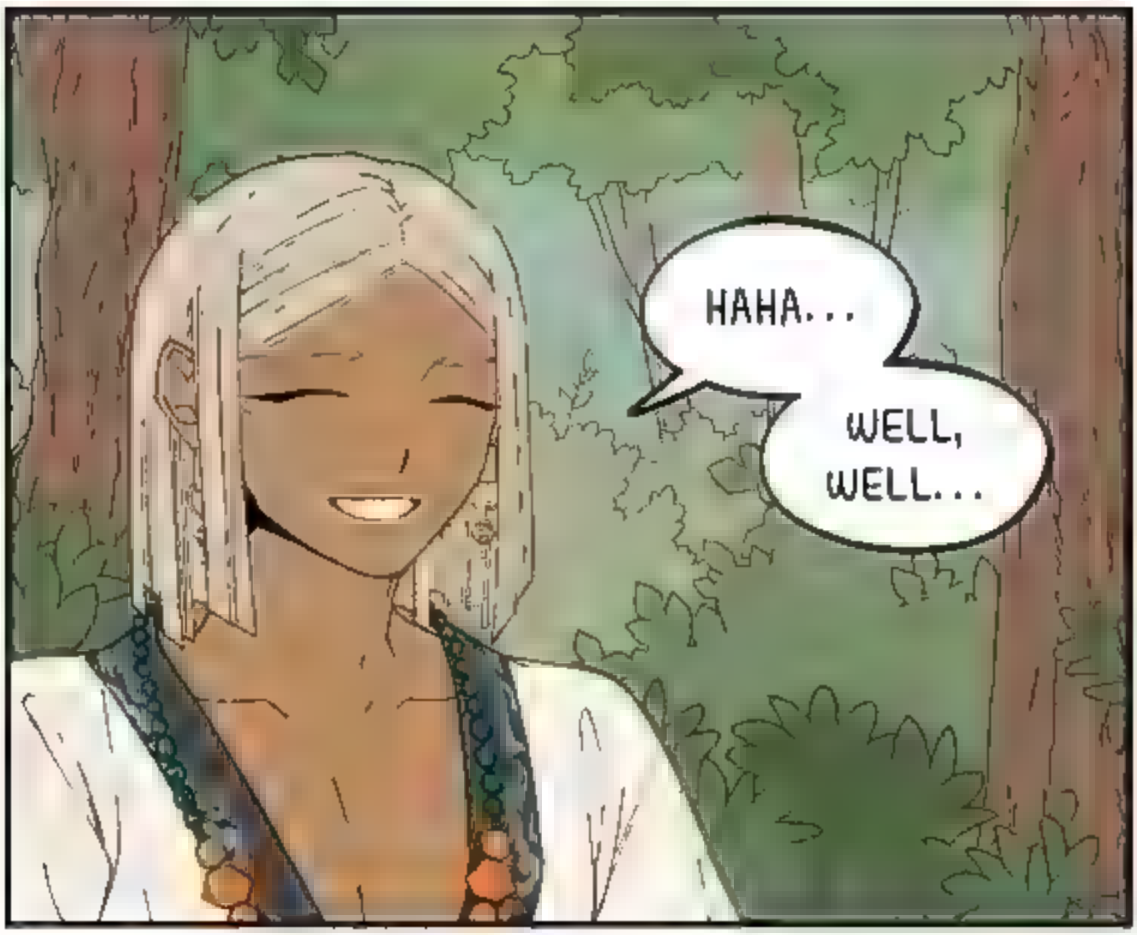

...
THAT'S RIGHT.

YEARNING FOR THE PAST, DWELLING ON REGRETS...
THESE ARE

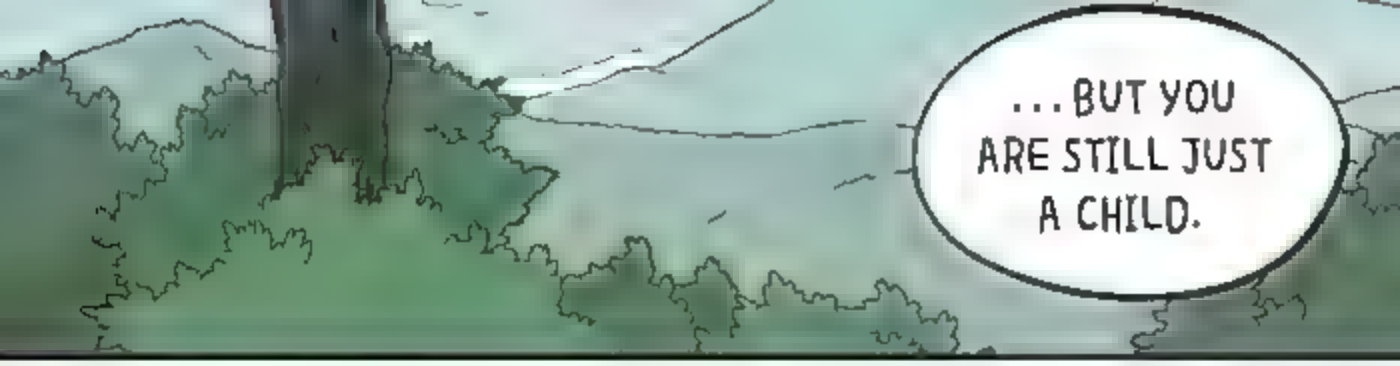
THOSE LEFT BEHIND
CANNOT HELP
BUT DO.

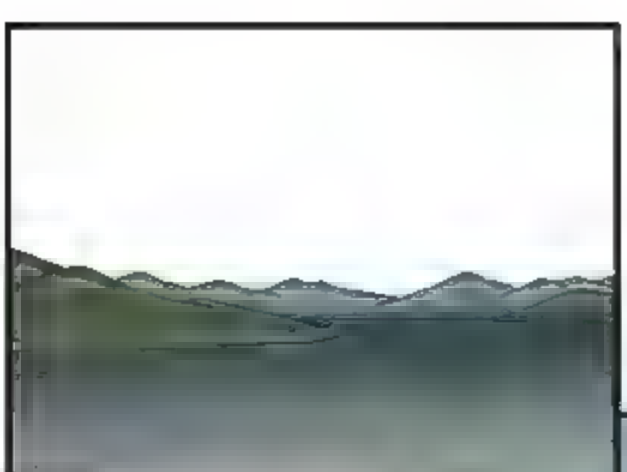
YET YOU NEED
TO KNOW HOW TO
LET GO OF THAT WHICH
HAS ALREADY
PASSED.
IT IS THE
ONLY WAY YOU CAN
KEEP LIVING FOR
SO LONG.

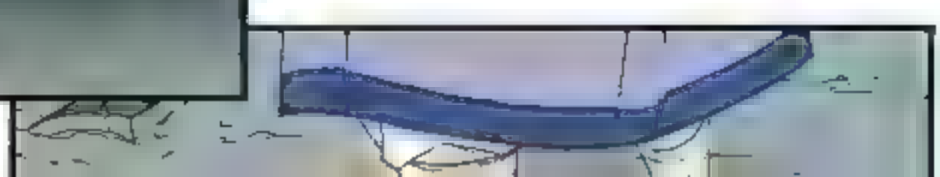

...
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?


HAHA...
WELL, WELL...

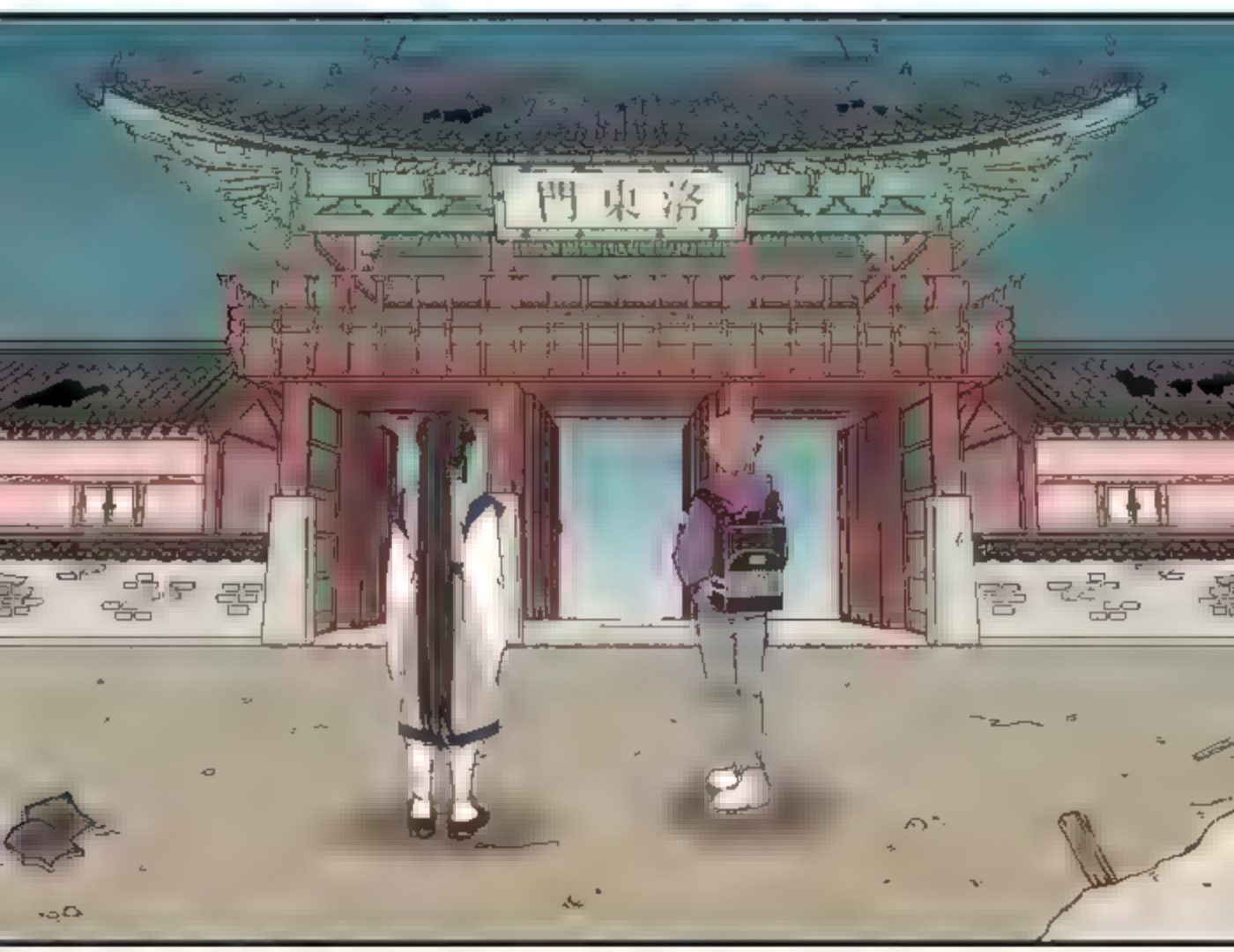
I HEARD THE IMOOGIS TREATED YOU LIKE AN ELDER...


...BUT YOU ARE STILL JUST A CHILD.





STEP


洛東門

ALL RIGHT.
SHOULD WE GO IN?
NOD
YEAH!

...!

!
RAISE

WHO'S
NOT HERE?

I CAN'T FEEL ANYONE'S PRESENCE.
THERE SHOULD BE A WHOLE GROUP OF IMOOGIS HERE...

...SO WHY IS THE PALACE...

Story/Art eon
Assistance Stinis
HD
Gwang-gyu